

States, Cultures and Global Transitions (SA)

Sociology and Anthropology 430

Section: E100

Term: 2006 Fall

Instructor: Dr. Yildiz Atasoy

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Discussion Topics: This course will be held in the Evening at Burnaby Campus.

This course offers a theoretical and thematic exploration of the connections between the global and the local. The history and trajectory of societies involve specific configurations of social class, gender, and ethnic relations. These take shape within and help shape the character of the global system in different historical periods. The course focuses on the following themes of political, economic, and cultural transformation:

- 1- What is the state?: from the national to the global era;
- 2- Capital and classes: contending world historical projects;
- 3- Development discourse
- 4- Alternatives to Euro-American centrism: shared and contested quests for meaning.

Through a program of focussed readings, critical analysis, in-depth class discussion, case studies, thoughtful synthesis, historical investigation, and film materials, we will examine the material aspects of cooperation and coercion, class relations in structures of capital accumulation and global governance, and cultural dynamics. Alternatives to Euro-American centrism are explored through the examples of citizenship, cultural politics, ethnic and religious conflicts, human rights, indigenous rights, and women's rights. Throughout, the course addresses historical and global dimensions of classical and contemporary theory, and develops an alternative framework to postmodernist criticisms.

Grading: 1- Written summaries 30%

2- Class presentations 30%

3- Critical journals (due November 23) 25%

4- Presenting the international news of the week 5%

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5- Participation (details will be discussed in class) 10%

All the assignments in this course must be completed for a final grade to be assigned.

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology follows SFU policy in relation to grading practices, grade appeals (Policy T 20.01) and academic dishonesty and misconduct procedures (Policy T 10.03). It is the responsibility of students to inform themselves of the content of these policies (available on the SFU website under Administration, SFU Policies & Procedures).

Required Texts: 1- Atasoy, Y. and W. Carroll (2003). Global Shaping and Its Alternatives. Aurora: Garamond Press.

2- Selected Readings. (You will have access to these readings in the reference library)

Recommended Texts: None

Materials/Supplies: None

Prerequisite/Corequisite: 90 credit hours which must include SA 150. Highly recommended: SA 302. Students who took SA 463 in 2004-3 may not take this course for further credit.

Notes: All students are expected to read and understand SFU's policies with regard to academic dishonesty (T 10.02 and T 10.03). These policies are available at the following web addresses: <http://www.sfu.ca/policies/teaching/t10-02.htm> and <http://www.sfu.ca/policies/teaching/t10-03.htm>

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